

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 637

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Newell "Hop" Byrd upon his receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated their time and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1.17 million Tennessee volunteers give over 143.9 million hours of community service, contributing \$3.5 billion to Tennessee's economy; and

WHEREAS, these volunteers are the backbone of our communities, and by giving their time and talents to fulfill needs that would otherwise go unmet, they embody the spirit of giving; and

WHEREAS, these individuals should be recognized, not only to appreciate their efforts, but also in the hope that such recognition will encourage others to step up and make a difference; and

WHEREAS, Newell "Hop" Byrd of Cocke County is one such exemplary person, who is a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award in recognition of his laudable commitment to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd has served his community as a member of the Newport Rescue Squad, which he joined in 1961; and

WHEREAS, within two years of joining the squad, he had helped fight a devastating fire in downtown Newport, cleared away debris left by a tornado, and joined others in recovering the bodies of thirty-nine plane crash victims in the Parrottsville community; and

WHEREAS, during less tragic occasions, Newell Byrd contributed thousands of volunteer hours assisting at ballgames, parades, the local fair, and other festivals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Byrd is a model citizen, and his commitment to helping others through volunteerism is representative of the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Newell "Hop" Byrd upon his receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award, applaud his outstanding community leadership, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.